(c) and (d) With the progressive increase in the production of aluminium metal by National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), surplus availability of aluminium is anticipated next year. However, import of aluminium including aluminium rods have been placed on Open General Licence (OGL) with marginal level of customs duty of Rs. 500/- per tonne from July, 1988.

Back-ground papers on rural development

2707. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any background papers have been prepared on rural development;

(b) whether any scheme on the lines of the scheme existing in Maharashtra has also been prepared; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c) Background papers on various issues relating to rural development are prepared from time to time by the Department of Rural Development for their internal use as well as for discussions in meetings, seminars, workshops etc. No final scheme on National Employment Guarantee on the pattern of existing employment Guarantee Scheme of Maharashtra has however, been formulated by the Government.

Central Scheme on environmental improvement of urban slums

2708. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Scheme on environmental improvement of urban slums during the Seventh Plan period is going on according to the target fixed;

(b) if so, what is the number of total slum dwellers who have been provided amenities under the Central Scheme; and

(c) what are the names of the States where slum dwellers have been provided these amenities and the target fixed and whether by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan period, the slum dwellers all over the country are proposed to be provided with such environmental improvements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) As against 7th Plan target of coverage of about 9 million slum dwellers under the State sector Scheme of Environment Improvement of Urban Slums, about 5.74 million slum dwellers have been covered in the first three years of the plan which is considered satisfactory progress. A statement showing State-wise physical targets and achievements under the Scheme during the first three years of the Plan is enclosed. (See Appendix CXL-VIII, Annexure No. 119).

The 7th Plan target of coverage slum dwellers is likely to be achieved. The balance slum dwellers, not covered till the end of 7th Plan, would have to be taken care of in the subsequent plans.

Indo Jordan co-operation agreement on manpower

2709. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Jordan propose to formalise an agreement defining co-operation in manpower related affairs;

(b) if so, whether the Labour Minister of India visited Jordan during September; and

(c) if so, what were the main subjects discussed and what are the main features of the same?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding on manpower between India and Jordan has been signed in Delhi on 22nd October, 1988. The main purpose of the Memorandum is to protect and safeguard the interests of Indian workers in Jordan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Allotment of premises of Western Court on rent

2710. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Western Court is exclusively meant for M.Ps. and their guests;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some outside agencies have been allotted accommodation in those premises;

(c) if so, the names of such agencies and the purpose for which they have been allotted;

(d) what amount of rent is collected from them; and

(e) whether Government are also aware of the fact that some Staff there are in collusion with some touts who bring in "guests" for a few days and charge "rent" on the sly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) The guests of M.Ps./Ministers are charged daily rate of market rent @ Rs. 26/- per day per suite and any extra person is charged Rs. 15/- per day per person.

(e) No, Sir.

TV Transmitter in Nalgonda District of A.P.

2711. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a T.V. Relay Centre in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh for the coverage of the backward area of that State;

(b) if so, by when T.V. Relay Centre is likely to be set up; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) A substantial part of Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh is within the service area of the high power (10 KW) TV transmitters functioning at Hyderabad and Vijayawada. There is, however, no scheme at present, under the Seventh Plan to set up a separate TV transmitter in the district. Any further strengthening of TV service in the area (as also other parts of the country similarly placed) would depend upon the future availability of resources for this purpose.

DRDA subsidy to farmers in Andhra Pradesh

2712. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under District Rural Development Agency Subsidy has not been given to the farmers and other backward classes in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh during the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue instructions to all the Nationalised Banks to issue full loans to the farmers and other backward classes to meet their demands and if not, the reasons therefor?